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REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of

DENTON

1954

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URBAN DISTRICT OF DENTON

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1954

(including the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR)

URBAN DISTRICT OF DENTON

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR G. R. HARRIS

Members :

Councillor W. H. Marsland, J.P., *Ex-Officio*
,, R. E. Mather
,, A. Hewitt
,, Mrs. E. W. Brown
,, J. W. Flatley
,, J. Townsend
,, H. Hallows
,, Mrs. M. Moores
,, F. Booth
,, W. N. Hill

Public Health Department,
16 Victoria Street,
Denton

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration my report on the health of the district and work of the department for 1954.

In reviewing the statistics there are several features worthy of attention, but perhaps the most significant is the fall in the birth rate which at 12.6 per 1,000 of the population is the lowest recorded for 20 years.

The death rate at 10.8 per 1,000 of the population is 0.2 below the previous year, 1.2 below the average of the preceding 5 years and 0.5 below that for England and Wales.

The infantile mortality rate at 19 per 1,000 live births again created a new low record. There were no maternal deaths.

The estimated mid-year population was 25,630 an increase of 130 on the previous year. The natural increase was 46.

Unfortunately, a minor epidemic of dysentery (Shigella Sonnei) occurred in March and persisted until the end of June. 194 cases were notified, which involved the collection and examination of 1,894 specimens. numerous visits and incidental work and I wish to pay tribute to my staff and to Dr. Parker and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory for their assistance in connection with the outbreak.

Apart from tuberculosis and pneumonia, there were no deaths from notifiable infectious diseases.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

HAZEL I. ASHFORD,

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

HAZEL I. ASHFORD,
M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector. Cleansing Superintendent and Petroleum Officer :

RONALD JAMES STANYARD,
B.A., (ADMIN)
Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Smoke Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

NORMAN NAYLOR MORRIS,
Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
Certificate and Diploma, R.I.P.H. & H.
(Appointed 4th January, 1954)

JOHN BENJAMIN WILLIAMS,
Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.
(Appointed 21st June, 1954)

Clerks :

WILLIAM LESLIE KING
EDNA MAY LLOYD

Social Conditions

The Urban District of Denton lies in the extreme South East corner of Lancashire, 330ft. above sea level. The district is well planned and has four main highways, radiating from the centre almost North, South, East and West.

Houses in the district are mainly of the four and six roomed type and the condition and general soundness on the whole is fair. Rising dampness and leaking roofs are the chief prevailing forms of defects. Approximately one half of the houses are built in terraces while the other half are of the semi-detached or detached type with gardens front and rear and built during the past quarter century.

The district is principally industrial and residents are mainly employed in the manufacture of hats and processes incidental thereto. There are also engineering, accumulator, plastic and rubber works together with printing and other light industries.

There is no reason to suspect that any particular occupation in the district has contributed to ill-health amongst employees.

General Statistics

Area (in acres)	2592.25
Population-Census 1951	25,612
Mid-1954 as supplied by Registrar General	25,630
Number of Houses—Census 1951	8,385
At the end of 1954	8,987
Rateable value	£141,633
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£570

VITAL STATISTICS

		M	F	TOTAL
LIVE BIRTHS :	Legitimate.....	144	171	315
	Illegitimate	2	6	8
		146	177	323
	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1954 :-			
	Crude	12.6		
	Adjusted	13.5		
	England and Wales.....	15.2		
STILLBIRTHS :	....	4	5	9
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	27		
DEATHS :	....	136	141	277
	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1954 :-			
	Crude	10.8		
	Adjusted	11.9		
	England and Wales	11.3		

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.....	Nil

Death rate of infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	19
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	19
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Neo-natal mortality :-

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	5
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	15

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1949—54

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Year 1954	323	*12·6	277	*10·8	9	27	Nil	Nil	6	19	5	15
Year 1953	379	14·9	280	11·0	14	36	1	2·54	11	21	7	18
Year 1952	352	13·8	304	11·9	14	38	Nil	Nil	13	37	11	31
Year 1951	354	13·9	334	13·1	12	33	Nil	Nil	15	42	11	31
Year 1950	341	13·3	331	12·9	19	53	Nil	Nil	8	23	4	12
Year 1949	404	16·0	279	11·0	7	17	Nil	Nil	13	32	—	—
Average 5 years 1949-1953	—	14·4	—	12·0	—	35	—	·51	—	31	—	18

* Adjusted (live birth-rate comparability factor, 1·07) = 13·5 per 1,000
(Death-rate comparability factor, 1·10 = 11·9 per 1,000

DEATHS

The following table shows the chief causes of Death during the year

No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis respiratory	4	—
2	,, other	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	1	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—
7	Acute poliomyclitis	—	—
8	Measles	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	6
11	,, ,, lung, and Bronchus	6	—
12	,, ,, breast	—	4
13	,, ,, uterus	—	2
14	,, ,, (other sites)	15	10
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—
16	Diabetes	2	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	30
18	Coronary disease, angina	18	7
19	Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
20	Other heart disease	30	40
21	Other circulatory disease	4	4
22	Influenza	1	1
23	Pneumonia	4	6
24	Bronchitis	5	7
25	Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	—
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostrate	1	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	16
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
34	All other accidents	1	3
35	Suicide	4	2
36	Homicide and other operations of war	—	—
	All causes	136	141

INFANT MORTALITY, 1954

Causes of Death of Infants under one year of age

	Under 1 mth.	1 mth	2 mths.	3 mths	4 mths.	5 mths.	6 mths.	7 mths.	8 mths.	9 mths.	10 mths	11 mths.	Total under 1 year
Broncho—Pneumonia	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
Neonatal Asphyxia	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Prematurity	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3
	5	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6

Population, Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates to 1954

Year	Population	No. of Births	Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Death Rate	No. of Infantile Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 births
1902		442	27.7	242	15 9	67	158.
1903	Cenus	387	24.5	226	14.7	70	180
1904	1901	388	25.0	246	15.2	74	190
1905	14,934	336	21.5	230	14.7	63	187
1906		399	25.4	259	16.5	54	135
1907	15,811	352	22.2	215	13.5	34	96
1908	15,983	392	24 2	215	13.4	41	104
1909	16,122	391	24.5	244	15.1	51	130
1910	16,319	439	26.9	195	11.9	43	97
1911	16,931	385	22.7	256	15.1	57	148
1912	17,049	364	21.3	248	14.5	54	148
1913	17,189	359	20.8	252	14.6	52	144
1914	17,344	366	21.1	225	12.9	44	120
1915	17,481	328	18.7	255	14.8	48	146
1916	17,554	295	16.2	244	14 5	32	108
1917	17,608	290	16.5	216	13.7	20	68
1918	17,649	251	14.4	254	16 4	17	67
1919	17,642	293	16.4	205	11.9	24	81
1920	17,786	394	22.0	204	11.4	36	91
1921	18,020	351	19.4	217	12.0	34	96
1922	17,950	281	15 6	220	12.2	27	96
1923	17,970	311	17.3	216	12.0	25	80
1924	17,900	263	14 6	212	11.8	30	114
1925	17,770	289	16.2	218	12 2	27	93
1926	17,150	232	13.5	240	13 9	24	103
1927	17,010	212	12.4	195	11.4	19	89
1928	17,600	226	12.8	208	11 8	12	53
1929	17,750	217	12.2	300	16 9	21	96
1930	17,750	212	11 9	220	12 3	11	51
1931	17,580	203	11.5	221	12.5	14	68
1932	17,620	193	10 9	244	13.8	14	72
1933	17,870	199	11.1	231	12.9	16	80
1934	18,270	192	10.5	205	11.2	13	67
1935	18,770	277	14 7	228	12.1	17	61
1936	19;670	253	12.8	273	13.8	22	86
1937	21,090	351	16 6	264	12.5	20	56
1938	21,700	345	15.8	296	13.6	15	43
1939	22,830	353	15.5	290	12.7	17	47
1940	23,050	407	17.6	338	14.6	27	66
1941	22,970	349	15.1	313	13.6	12	33
1942	22,590	433	18.7	290	12.8	18	42
1943	22,400	481	21.4	289	12.9	28	58
1944	22,560	457	20.2	277	12.3	19	42
1945	22,680	421	18.5	291	12.8	18	42
1946	24,030	462	19.2	293	12.1	19	41
1947	24,770	572	23.0	296	11.9	24	41
1948	25.380	443	17.4	265	10 4	16	36
1949	25.270	404	16.0	279	11.0	13	32
1950	27,710	431	13.3	331	12.9	8	23
1951	25,550	354	13.9	334	13.1	15	42
1952	25,600	352	13.8	304	11 9	13	37
1953	25,500	379	14.9	280	11.0	11	21
1954	25,630	323	12.6	277	10.8	6	19

Laboratory Facilities.

All pathological and bacteriological work was carried out by the Regional Public Health Laboratory Service under the direction of Dr. Parker at Monsall Hospital, Manchester. In several instances the expert advice of Dr. Parker and his staff at the Laboratory has been most helpful when tracing possible sources of infection.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals in the district but the Manchester Regional Hospital Board provides facilities for residents as follows:—

(*a*) General Medical and Surgical Patients are treated in or at hospitals in the neighbouring districts of Ashton-u-Lyne, Manchester and Stockport.

(*b*) Tuberculosis—Visitation at home, dispensary and sanatorium treatment is provided for all known cases of Tuberculosis.

(*c*) Infectious Disease—The majority of cases are sent for isolation and treatment to Hyde Hospital and to Monsall Hospital at Manchester.

(*d*) Maternity—Cases are admitted to the Lake Hospital Ashton-u-Lyne, and St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council as the Local Health Authority for the area provides the following services through the medium of Health Division No. 17 of which Denton is a constituent district :—

1—Maternity and Child Welfare.

2—School Medical Services.

3—Midwifery.

4—Health Visiting.

5—Home Nursing.

6—Vaccination and Immunisation.

7—Ambulance Services.

8—Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

9—Domestic Help.

10—Mental Health.

11—Health Education and Propaganda.

The Medical Officer locally responsible for the above Divisional Health Service is :—

Dr. ALAN S. SIMPSON,
Divisional Medical Officer
Divisional Health Offices,
St. Michael's Square,
Ashton-under-Lyne.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table I on page 16 shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified, removals to hospital and mortality during 1954, Table II the total number of cases removed to hospital and Table III the trend of infectious disease during the past 25 years. It will be observed from Table No. III that the incidence of Measles was again high, and that the number of cases of Pneumonia (41) was the highest for 13 years. Conversely, the incidence of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough was well below the average of preceding years.

Diphtheria

For the fifth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified. Immunisation against Diphtheria is a function of the Divisional Health Service.

Food Poisoning

Two cases of Food Poisoning were notified, one of which was of Salmonella Typhimurium type. Despite full investigation it was not found possible to trace the food involved.

Puerperal Pyrexia

No cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. Two cases of incomplete abortion were removed to hospital for treatment and recovered.

Acute Poliomyelitis

One case of suspected non-paralytic poliomyelitis removed to hospital was subsequently diagnosed as Meningitis.

Dysentery

On the 22nd March 1954 the first of 194 cases of Dysentery (Shigella Sonnei) was notified. With two or three exceptions the illness was only mild, diarrhoea occuring for a few days, but in many instances the organism was present in a succession of specimens examined over a period of several weeks.

It will be seen on reference to Table I on page 16 that the disease was not peculiar to any particular age group nor was it restricted to any one school or area of the district. Numerous investigations and enquiries were made as to the possible source of infection but without result. Two cases found to be engaged in the food trade were excluded from work until negative reports were received. Altogether 1,894 specimens were submitted from cases and contacts to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and 858 were found to be positive.

Disinfection.

Formaldehyde spray and formalin vapour generators are used for the disinfection of infected premises. A steam disinfector situate at Alpha Tip is used for the disinfection of bedding, articles of clothing etc., when required. 39 houses were disinfected during the year.

Vaccine, etc.

Anti-toxin, vaccines and pathological outfits were available at the Public Health Department.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Swabs for Diphtheria	15
Faeces for Typhoid, Salmonella or Dysentery Groups	1,894

TABLE I

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1954

	Total eases	0–	1–	3–	5–	10–	15–	25–	45–	65 and over	Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	24	—	2	4	12	4	1	1	—	—	—	2
Measles	353	6	63	92	190	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	38	5	12	11	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Aeute Pneumonia	41	—	—	4	4	—	—	9	19	5	10	2
Puerpcral Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infeetion ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery	194	2	29	40	54	12	5	43	8	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1
TOTAL	658	13	106	151	271	18	8	53	30	8	10	13

TABLE II

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL

	Monsall Hospital, Manchester	Hyde Hospital	Westhume Hospital, Oldham	Booth Hall Hospital, Manchester	Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester	Total
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	1
Mumps	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pemphigus	1	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	—	—	—	2
Measles	1	2	2	—	—	5
Measles and Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Incomplete Abortion	2	—	—	—	—	2
? Dysentery	—	—	2	—	—	2
? Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	1
? Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1
? Acute Poliomyelitis (N.P.)...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	11	5	5	1	1	23

TABLE III

Infectious Disease Notifications during the past 25 years

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Smallpox	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	85	63	33	35	48	33	70	57	108	68	23	59	123	58	51	64	28	34	29	119	103	57	69	72	24
Diphtheria	11	20	6	15	45	34	17	97	34	17	6	26	10	5	2	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	471	276	273	87	202	405	164	378	138	236	233	395	100	443	353
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	97	51	29	70	43	12	127	27	102	80	168	74	113	147	38
Acute Pneumonia	21	32	41	30	11	15	24	16	19	36	56	36	30	26	30	18	28	28	9	17	26	36	11	16	41
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	2	3	2	1	1	—	5	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	5	9	3	2	—	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	3	—	1	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	31	28	—	—	5	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	4	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	194
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	15	11	10	14	13	8	6	12	13	4	4	2	7	8	11	15	9	4	4	5	7	3	4	4	4
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	27	4	3	—	2
Tuberculosis :																									
Pulmonary	20	14	11	17	11	19	14	28	18	21	20	24	24	27	18	20	26	15	23	15	18	27	24	23	16
Non-Pulmonary	3	11	12	4	7	13	12	14	10	6	4	6	7	14	8	6	5	11	3	2	4	6	4	5	3
Total	161	169	147	119	138	129	144	224	219	156	690	497	511	300	367	563	393	504	312	482	589	606	332	716	677

TUBERCULOSIS

Adjustments to the register of tubereulosis persons were made as shown in Table IV on page 20, Table V the age grouping and separation of sexes of new cases and deaths, and Table VI the ineidenee and mortality of tuberculosis during the past 10 years.

All houses were disinfected after removal of a tubercular person and bedding and personal belongings subjeeted to steam disinfeetion when desired. Struetural defeets in houses, particulary regarding ventilation, were given immediate attention and any easc known to be sharing a bedroom was given priority in rehousing. 4 such eases were rehoused during the year.

No action was required under the Public Health Aet (Prevention of Tubereulosis) Regulations 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

TABLE IV

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REGISTER OF TUBERCULOSIS PERSONS DURING 1954

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Number of cases on register at 31st December, 1953	69	58	127	13	14	27
Number of primary notifications	10	6	16	3	—	3
Number of cases transferred in	2	3	5	1	—	1
Number of cases ascertained otherwise than by notification	2	—	2	—	—	—
	14	9	23	4	—	4
Adjustment (combined case)	+1	—	24	—1	—	3
Number of recovered or quiescent cases removed from register ...	2	1	3	3	1	4
Number of transfers out	2	2	4	—	—	—
Number of deaths	4	—	4	—	—	—
Number of cases removed from register—death not attributable to tuberculosis	1	—	1	—	1	1
	9	3	12	3	2	5
Number of cases on register at 31st December, 1954	75	64	139	13	12	25

TABLE V

New cases and Mortality during 1954

Age	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1—	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2—	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5—	2	1	1	–	1	–	–	–
10—	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15—	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	–
20—	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25—	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	–
35—	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–
45—	4	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
55—	2	–	–	–	1	–	–	
65—	2	–	–	–	2	–	–	–
75 and upwards	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Totals	15	9	3	–	4	–	–	–
	24		3		4		–	–

Case Rate per 1,000	0.93 | 0.12	Death Rate per 1,000	0.16 | 0.00
	1.05		0.16

TABLE VI

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality 1945—1954

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1945	13	7	4	2	9	8	1	–
1946	15	11	4	1	4	1	–	2
1947	8	7	3	8	5	2	–	1
1948	13	10	1	2	5	5	1	1
1949	9	6	–	2	4	2	1	1
1950	10	11	2	2	6	3	–	1
1951	16	11	2	4	4	4	1	1
1952	16	8	1	3	4	1	1	–
1953	16	7	3	2	1	–	1	–
1954	15	9	3	–	4	–	–	–

CANCER

38 deaths were recorded from Cancer giving a death rate of 1.87 per thousand of the population. Table VII shows the deaths from Cancer during 1954 according to site and age at death.

TABLE VII

DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1954
Site of Disease and Age at Death

CANCER (Site)	At Ages (years)				At all Ages
	0 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	
Mouth	–	–	–	1	1
Oesophagus	–	–	–	2	2
Bronchus	–	–	3	–	3
Lung	–	–	–	3	3
Breast	–	–	1	3	4
Spine	–	–	1	–	1
Stomach	–	–	5	4	9
Colon	–	–	4	7	11
Pancreas	–	–	1	1	2
Jejunum	–	–	1	–	1
Gall Bladder	–	–	1	–	1
Rectum	–	–	–	1	1
Ovary	–	–	1	–	1
Uterus	–	–	–	2	2
Cervix	–	–	–	1	1
Prostrate	–	–	–	1	1
Leukemia	–	–	1	1	2
Carcinomatosis	–	–	–	2	2
Totals	–	–	19	29	48

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

SECTION 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

In June 1953 a Justices Order was obtained for the removal and detention of an aged woman who was found to be living in insanitary conditions and unable to devote to herself and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention. This person remained in "Lakeside" Fountain Street, Ashton-u-Lyne (accommodation provided by Lancashire County Council under Part III of the Act) until early in 1954, but it was found necessary to obtain a further Order for her removal on 28/5/54 and at the end of the year she remained at "Lakeside."

Public Health Department,
16 Victoria Street,
DENTON

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the environmental health and public cleansing services for 1954.

With the change over to private slaughtering two licensed slaughterhouses in the district were re-opened. This, plus the ever increasing amount of work falling on the department and the further increase anticipated under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 necessitated the appointment of a Second Additional Sanitary Inspector. Mr. J. B. Williams was appointed to this position in June.

The decision made in 1953 to carry on the collection of salvage was fully justified during the year. The amounts of salvage collected and income received, with comparative figures for the previous year, are shown in the Table on page 28. Even though the new salvage depot was only in full operation from the end of November it will be observed that by the end of the financial year the income was increased by £1,216 0. 3.

A 10 cwt. van was purchased during the year for work which could not be economically carried out with the department's larger vehicles.

I should like to express my appreciation of the work of all the staff and in particular Mr. N. N. Morris for his invaluable assistance in the planning and construction of the salvage depot.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I once again must express my appreciation of their continued encouragement and support.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RONALD J. STANYARD,
Chief Sanitary Inspector

Water Supply.

Upland surface water is gathered in reservoirs belonging to Manchester Corporation and supplied through their mains to all parts of the district. The supply is constant and of fairly good quality, but owing to the water not being filtered the amount of suspended solids has given rise to some concern. Representations have been made to Manchester Corporation but there has been no improvement. Economy in the use of water is necessary especially during periods of drought, but it is anticipated that completion of the Haweswater Aqueduct will ensure a plentiful supply.

Samples for analysis were submitted with the following results :—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Bacteriological	23	4

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the district is on the partially separate system. The sewage from one area is collected at a pumping station and, after separation of the storm water, is pumped to the head of a gravitational sewer. The whole of the sewage from the district is delivered ultimately to the Sewage Disposal Works by way of two main outfall sewers 24" and 18" diameter respectively. The process of treatment at the sewage works consists of primary clarification of the sewage, whereby solids are removed by sedimentation and chemical precipitation, followed by treatment on percolating filters in which the clarified tank effluent is rendered non-putrescible by bio-chemical oxidisation. The deposited sludge, which is screened mechanically, gravitates to the pump house and is pumped into digestive tanks, the digested sludge being ultimately dried on adjoining drying beds and disposed of chiefly for the manufacture of artificial fertiliser.

Closet Accommodation.

Closet accommodation at the end of year was as follows :-

Pail Closets	14
Fresh Water Closets.....	9789

Refuse Collection

Four vehicles with trailers are employed in the collection of household refuse, salvage, trade waste etc. 9,001 dustbins and 14 pail closets were in use at the end of the year, and as far as possible a weekly collection is maintained. The following table shows details of loads collected :—

Household Refuse	4,182	loads
Trade Waste	520	,,
Salvage	287	,,
Private Works	120	,,
Tip Covering Material	44	,,

Street cleansing in the district is under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor.

Refuse Disposal

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping on the main site at Alpha Tip. This site has been in use since 1935.

Salvage

A five year contract for the disposal of salvage waste paper was entered into in February and in view of this and the increasing demand, a new salvage depot was erected complete with modern machinery consisting of a Power Continuous Baler and a Sorting Belt. This work was completed in November.

DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The following is a detailed list of the department's revenue during the year. For comparative purposes the figures for the preceding year are also given:—

	Year ending 31st March, 1954						Year ending 31st March, 1955					
	T.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.	T.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Refuse Collection												
Trade Refuse Charges				7	17	0				3	18	0
Refuse Disposal												
Trade Refuse Charges				47	0	0				60	0	0
Salvage												
Baled Paper	195	7	0	1003	16	6	278	10	0	2275	6	1
Kitchen Waste	46	19	2	181	11	6						
Textiles	0	1	1	2	3	0	4	10	0	60	2	3
Black Scrap	8	2	3	44	11	9	17	10	0	89	12	2
Rubber							0	5	1	1	6	3
Mechanical Transport												
Transport Charges.....				245	16	6				255	4	1
Public Lavatories												
Miscellaneous Receipts				369	0	6				361	17	11
Miscellaneous												
Sale of Dustbins				27	9	4				37	11	3
Sale of Disinfectant				16	11	11				16	0	9
Lethal Chamber Receipts				7	18	0				8	17	6
				£1953	16	0				£3169	16	3

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Drainage	137
Factories and Workshops	95
Interviews with Agents, Owners, etc., of property	303
Offensive Trades	2
Petrol Installations	16
Pet Animals Act	2
Public Conveniences	96
Rats and Mice	170
Refuse Collection	591
Refuse Disposal	573
Salvage	520
School Yards and Lavatories	8
Smoke Observations	50
Stables and Piggeries	3
Shops Act	239
Tents, Caravans and Sheds	4
Water Supply	10

Result of action in regard to defects or nuisances

Ceilings repaired	13
Chimney stacks pointed or repaired	8
Damp proof courses repaired	3
Doors repaired	5
Drains released or repaired	70
Dustbins renewed	605
Eavesgutters repaired	51
Floors repaired	14
Fireplaces and kitchen ranges repaired	10
Offensive accummulations removed	—
Rain water pipes repaired	19
Roofs repaired	63
Sink waste pipes repaired	1
Skirting boards repaired	3
Staircases repaired	—
Walls pointed	36
Walls rebuilt	4
Walls replastered	27
Wash Boilers repaired	1
W.C. cisterns repaired	6
W.C. pedestals renewed	13
Window frames and sash cords repaired	16
Yard walls and surfaecs repaired	5
Smoke nuisances abated	—
Miscellaneous repairs	11

Notices

	Served		Complied with	
	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory
Public Health Act 1936	388	77	308	61
Housing Acts	9	13	45	24

Tents, Vans and Sheds

6 licences were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. Four of the licenses were granted to key workmen to use caravans temporarily for residential purposes during the construction of a new gas works in the district. Two licences were in respect of caravans used for weekend camping.

Smoke Abatement

The time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke is two minutes per half hour. 50 observations were made during the year. No formal action under the Public Health Act 1936 was necessary, but as a result of complaints made by the department, the management of one factory arranged and paid for the attendance of their stoker at the Boilerhouse Practice Course at the Manchester College of Technology. At another factory the vertical boiler was changed from coal to coke with the result that the smoke nuisance was completely abated.

As a result of representations made to the Lancashire County Council the nuisance caused by smoke from the Boilerhouse of the Egerton Park County Secondary School was considerably reduced but the position is still open to improvement.

The Council contribute to a scheme sponsored by the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee for the investigation of atmospheric pollution. Under the foregoing scheme two sulphur dioxide recorders were established in the area during 1951, one at the Town Hall and the other at the Sewage Disposal Works, and the results have been forwarded to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for inclusion in a report which they are preparing on atmospheric pollution.

Schools

Sanitary conditions are now satisfactory at all Schools in the district. During the year the trough closets at Haughton Green County School were replaced with fresh water closets. The School yard at this School and at St. Mary's R.C. School are unpaved and in bad condition.

Rodent Control

One full time rodent operator is employed. Two complete treatments of the sewers in the district were carried out during the year. Infestation of premises by rats and mice and the resultant measures of control are shown in the following table.

RODENT CONTROL
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	Type of Property				
	Non Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses (inc. council houses	All other (including business premises)	Total of columns (1) (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	19	8,381	1,477	9,877	24
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification	7	444	49	500	—
(b) Survey under the Act	12	37	3	52	—
(c) Otherwise (*e.g.* when visited primarily for some other purpose	—	130	30	160	10
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	92	1484	197	1,773	10
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) which were found to be infested by :-					
(a) Rats Major	1	—	—	—	—
(a) Rats Minor	15	193	21	229	—
(b) Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Mice Minor	4	229	19	252	—
5. Number of infested properties (in Sect. 4) treated by the L.A.	19	400	34	453	—
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	24	428	47	499	—

FACTORY ACT, 1937

Inspection

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without mechanical power	4	–	–
Factories with mechanical power	139	95	7
Other premises	1	–	–
Total	144	95	7

Defects Found

Particulars	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences :—			
Insufficient	–	4	4
Defective	6	7	5
Other Offences against the Act	–	–	–
Total	7	12	10

Outwork

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec., 110 (1) (C)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	66

HOUSING STATISTICS

	Traditional Permanent houses
Number of new houses (including flats) erected during the year by the Local Authority	128
By other local authorities	—
By other bodies or persons	48

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

1.	(*a*) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Acts)	1262
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	2463
2.	(*a*) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	119
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	173
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	18
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	375

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	276

Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(*a*) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	13

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(*a*)	By owners	19
(*b*)	By local authority in default of owners	5

(*b*) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 77

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-

(*a*)	By owners	45
(*b*)	By local authority in default of owners :-	16

(*c*) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act. 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 8

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 17

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings 'not to occupy' were accepted by the local authority .... Nil

(*d*) Proceedings under section 10 (1) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 :-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses, separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 3

(2) Number of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit ..... Nil

(*e*) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-

(1)	Number of clearance areas represented	1
(2)	Number of houses concerned in (1)	3
(3)	Number of areas cleared	Nil
(4)	Number of houses concerned in (3)	Nil
(5)	Number of residents displaced in (3) and (4)	Nil
(6)	Number of houses built by local authority to re-house residents displaced under Clearance Order	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :-

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	158
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	224
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	795
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	67
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	215
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	860

5. Housing Act, 1949-54—Improvement grants, etc. :—

			Schemes of private bodies or individuals.	Schemes of local authority.
(a)	(i)	Number of Schemes submitted (a) by private individuals ..... to local authority	3	—
		(b) by local authority to Ministry	—	—
	(ii)	Number of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	3	—
(b)	(i)	Number of schemes finally approved	Under consideration	
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	Nil	Nil
	(iii)	Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved schemes	Nil	Nil
(c)		Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during year	Nil	Nil

6. Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954. Certificates of Disrepair.

No. of applications received	42
No. of certificates granted	41
No. of certificates refused	1
No. of certificates revoked	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply—

Action taken with regard to administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations

The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

No. of registered distributors operating from :-

(*a*)	Dairies in the district	1
(*b*)	Dairy farms in the district.....	9
(*c*)	Shops in the district other than dairies	76
(*d*)	Premises outside the district	11

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

No. of Dealers licences (including Supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1954 in respect of :-

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	19
"Accredited" Milk	10

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949

No. of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" Milk :—

Retail Distributors—

(*a*)	Pasteurised Milk	25
(*b*)	Sterilised Milk	86

Action taken by the Department in relation to samples taken in the district :—

Raw Milk

		Number of Samples	Number Negative	Number Positive
(1)	Tuberculosis..... Biological Tests	7	7	0
		Number of Samples	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
(2)	Methylene Blue Test	39	33	6

	Number of Samples	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
"Heat Treated" Milk			
(1) Tuberculosis	—	—	—
"Pasteurised"			
(2) Phosphatase Test	45	44	1
(3) Methylene Blue Test	45	45	—
"Sterilised"			
(4) Turbidity Test	6	6	—

Result of investigations by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries during the year arising from notifications by the local authority :—

Number of veterinary inspections	1
Number of cases where animal seized under Tuberculosis Order 1938	1
Number of animals seized.....	1
Number of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	—
Number of cases reported negative, no animals seized	—

Ice Cream

During the year 5 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. At the end of the year there were 83 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and one for manufacture.

46 samples were submitted for examination with the following results :—

Grade 1	36
Grade 2	8
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	1

Lollipops

34 samples were submitted for examination and all proved satisfactory.

Meat Inspection

In addition to the routine inspection of butchers shops the sanitary inspectors also inspected animals slaughtered at the Ministry of Food No. 2 Depot, Stockport, and on the cessation of meat rationing at slaughterhouses within the district.

118 visits to slaughterhouses were made and the number of carcases inspected is tabulated below:—

CARCASES INSPECTED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	297	279	86	2870	742
Number inspected	297	279	86	2870	742
All diseases except Tuberculosis—whole carcases condemned	–	–	5	–	–
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	27	131	–	40	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	9.1	46.9	5.8	1.4	3.5
Tuberculosis only—whole carcases condemned	–	2	–	–	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	99	–	–	47
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	8.8	36.2	Nil	Nil	6.7

CARCASE MEAT, OFFAL, TINNED AND OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED

	TONS.	CWTS.	QRS.	LBS.
Beef	4	0	2	22
Veal			1	4
Pork		13	2	1
Mutton			3	19
Tinned Meat		2	1	7
,, Fruit		1	1	3
,, Cream and Milk				18
,, Soups				8
,, Vegetables			3	3
,, Fish				4
Honey				2
Cheese				22
Dried Milk				25
Bacon			1	23
Tomatoes			1	4
Prunes				15

In accordance with the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughter) Order 1940 condemned meat was stained with green dye to indicate that it was unfit for human food, and sold for processing. All other food is disposed of under supervision on the Council's Refuse Tip.

Food Premises

Shops, hawkers carts and market stalls were inspected regularly by the sanitary inspectors and details of inspections, types of business, etc., are tabulated as follows:—

Inspections

Bakehouses	72
Butchers	136
Dairies and Milkshops	29
Fishmongers and Poulterers	15
Food Preparing Premises	67
Fried Fish Shops	15
Greengroeers and Fruiterers	28
Groeers	96
Ice Cream Premises	89
Market Stalls	100
Restaurants	16
Sundry visits	73
Sampling—Milk	25
Ice Cream	9
Water	25
Licensed Premises	6

Number of and type of Food Premises.

Grocers and Provision Dealers	102
Greengrocers	25
Fishmongers	3
Meat and Cooked Meat Shops	30
Bakers and Confectioners	28
Fried Fish Shops	19
Sweet Shops	19
Licensed Premises	25
Others	3

Number of Food Premises, by type, registered under Section 116 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act 1938.

Type of Business	Number Registered
Preserved Foods	9
Sale of Ice Cream	83
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1

MISCELLANEOUS

Petroleum Act

33 Licences were issued for the storage of petrol during the year.

Pet Animals Act

2 licences to keep pet shops were issued and two inspections of the premises were made.

Rag Flock Act, 1951

2 premises are registered for the purpose of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

14 licences were in force for the purpose of slaughtering animals.

Lethal Chamber

111 dogs and 56 cats were humanely destroyed during the year in chloroform lethal chambers of a type approved by the R.S.P.C.A.